THE WONDER OF Wonders,

BEING

A true Relation of the wonderful rising again of one (in the Ship called the *Dunbar*) who had been buryed on shore above 5 dayes, and stood upright in his Grave, and cry'd out with a shrill Voice, calling to the Fleet several times.

THis being one of the strangest and most miraculous of all Wonders that hath happened in this our age, before I come to the matter of this much to be admired accident, I shall instance two or three of the like nature very pertinent to the same.

Plinie writes in the Wars of the Danes, what signs and Wonders, what miserable cryes of men, clashing of Swords and Armour and neighing of horses were heard, in so much that the same day that *Cæsar* fought his battel with *Pompey*, the cry of

an Army, and the ſound of Trumpets were head at *Antiech* in *Syria*. Divers men that were in the battel of *Marathonia* againſt the *Medians* affirmed that they ſaw the ſoul of *Theſeus* armed before the hoſt of the Greeks as chief General and Captaine, running and ſetting on the Barbarous *Medians*, whom the *Athenians* afterward for that cauſe only honoured as a God.

Hector after he was ſlain by the hand of *Achilles*, appeared and deſired him not to throw his Carcaſe to be devoured by Doggs, but rather to deliver his body to be buried. So *Patrochus* appearing in like manner after he was dead to *Achilles*, deſired him to beſtow upon his body all Funerall ſolemnityes.

Many ſuch like viſions we read of in the Scripture; But let us take notice of the *Athenians* who preſaged that when *Miltiades* joyned in battel againſt the *Perſians*, hearing a terrible noiſe, and beholding certain Spirits before the battel, to have Victory over the *Perſians*, judging thoſe ſights and viſions to be the ſhadow of *Pan*.

Likewiſe the *Lacedemonians* before they were vanquiſhed in the battel of *Leuctris*, their Armour claſhed together, and made an exceeding great noyſe in the Temple of *Hercules*, ſo that at that time the Temple of *Hercules* being faſt ſhut with Iron barrs, opened ſuddenly of their own accord, and the Armour which hung faſtened before on the wall, was found on the ground.

But now to come to this ſtrange and much to be admired appearance it ſelf, which was as followeth, *viz*: The Fleet being now ſafely arrived from the Sound into their deſired Harbours where they lye in ſafety, and the Souldiers being paid off, ſome who were in the ſhip called the *Dunbar*, do credibly report a ſtrange and wonderfull accident which happened to one in that ſhip, who after he was dead and buried on the ſhore above five dayes, he to their great amazement roſe again, and there ſtood upright in his Grave ſeverall dayes together about Noon-tide, and cryed out to the Fleet with a moſt ſhrill voyce, ſaying unto them, *that they ſhould take up his Corps and bury him ſome where elſe further from the ſhore, otherwiſe he ſhould diſturb*

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and the rest all slipping that should come up that Road; upon which his dolefull eyes, some of the Seamen of the *Dunbar* considering thereof; were commanded out and went on shore, (after he was vanished again) and took up his Corps, and buried it again further in the Land, after which he was seen no more, to rise or disturb them in the least with these dismall exclamations, for the further satisfaction of the Incredulous, those that will not put confidence hereto may enquire of any Seamen who were in that Vessel, who will maintaine the truth thereof, and declare the particulars more exactly being eye-witnesses of the same.

One thing more above the rest is also observable, That the party before he was buried came also from the Grave into the room he dy'd out of among the sick men, a woman all in black walking before, and there told them by what token they should know his Grave which was by the lying of a white Wond cross the grave, the Seamen that went after his departure found the Wand according to this direction.

In the next place I shall give you an account of as strange an appearance as the former, which was thus, *viz.*

Another of the Ship called the *Dunbar*, being a shore in a Village where several sick men of their Vessel lay, and he standing at a Window reading a Book, was suddenly conveighed away out of the place, and being gone, severall persons missing him searched both Ditches and Wells, thinking he had made himself away; but their long search proved to little purpose, for they could never hear of him more; At the same time many were in the same room, but neither saw nor hear'd the least noise or disturbance at his departure, or how he went from thence, which seemed as miraculous to them as the former accident.

Now to the strange and wonderfull appearance in the Ayre, which happened in the North part of England, it being very true and apparent to the sight of severall spectators, I shall give you a brief account thereof, thus, *viz.*

On

On *Thursday* Septemb. 7. in the afternoon there was seen at Markfeld in Leicestershire extraordinary flashes of lightning, which breaking from the angry Clouds made way for the ensuing thunder, the claps whereof were terrible, and continued chiding and roaring in the Air for the space of an hour: At every silence and respite of the Thunder, the lightning during this dreadfull storm did break forth with great force: And the next voyce of the Thunder was louder, and more affrighting then that which was before; There were no showres of raine, but at the last there was a most black and dreadfull storm of Hail, and instead of Hail-stones there fell ratling down from the Air, Halberts, Swords, and Daggers, which being taken up were found to be of the same nature, and to be begotten of the same extremity of Cold as were the Hailstones, and after a little time, both the sight and the fright which the sight brought with it, did melt away at once.

Many of the Town of Markfield, and places adjacent were much amazed at this prodigious spectacle, which to increase their wonder, was seconded by another terrible noise in the Air, as if two great Armies had been on their march, and advancing one against the other; The Canons were heard to play with importunate fury, and the Muskets on both sides in repeated volleys did discharge their cholerick errands: During this incounter there were beheld many prodigious eruptions of fire, which with great violence did fly in the Air, and running lower, did teat in pieces many strong Houses, and laid great Trees on their backs, which in an instance were plucked up by the roots. There was not far off a Lime-kiln, on which some part of the tempest did fall with so great violence that all the Lime was blown up in the Air, Just as in a high storm the waters of the Sea are blown, when the winds and the waves do wrastle for supremacy. This being done, that part of the fiery tempest which came so low, was seen by all to take its course up the hill, where it vanished away, and was heard here no more noyse of it.

It is certified by several letters, that this Tempest at the first did appear like a thick and rowling Smoak, and sometimes

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it would cast it self into a great circumference, like to a great wheel, or an Orbe, not easie to be compassed.

The like storm also happened in Derbyshire, and more particularly in Darby Town, where although the Church stande's on an advantage of higher ground then any other place, yet some part of of the Church yard and Church it self, hath been covered by the insolence and usurpation of the waters, and the lower parts of the Town being almost drowned, the Inhabitants are compelled to betake themselves, and take their goods along with them into the upper rooms for their present safety, divers herds of Cattel have been destroyed by these inundations both there and in other parts.

In Scotland also they have lately suffered very much and in very many places by the late glut of rain, and immoderate weeping of the Clouds, which hath swelled the waters to so great a highth that about Leith the Mills are drowned, and three thousand pounds will not make good the losse, or repair the outrages, which the violence of the inundations have commited there.

By these and other great Flouds in divers parts, whereby both harvest, and Cattel have been carried away at once, all the hopes of the lamenting husbandman is lost.

Saint *Matthew* witnesseth, that *Moses* and *Elias*, after they were dead many hundred years before Christ, yet they appeared bodily and ghostly in Mount Tabor to Christ, where they spake and communion together.

The soul of *Lazarus* did not only appear, as *John* saith, but he came again both soul and body in token of our rising again. But as the appearing of those sights at Gods appointment were most true, so it is most absurd to give credit that the souls of men after death do either by visions or by bodily appearance shew themselves: but the Devil is well beaten in experience of things

things, and knoweth beſt how he may deceive the wiſeſt, for he is ſubtile and crafty. If the Marriner doth know when ſtorm and tempeſts ariſe, if the Phyſitian judgeth by the Urine the ſtate and danger of the Patient, if the skilful Aſtronomer can many years before exactly fortel the Eclipſe of the Sun and Moon, in fine, if the ſouldier knoweth where the victory will happen, no marvel it is that the Devil an old Souldier, can foreſhew things to come, and make things apparent of nothing.

Thus have ſeveral miraculous appearances been in all ages, which have produced ſtrange alterations, but the event of theſe time will make manifeſt.

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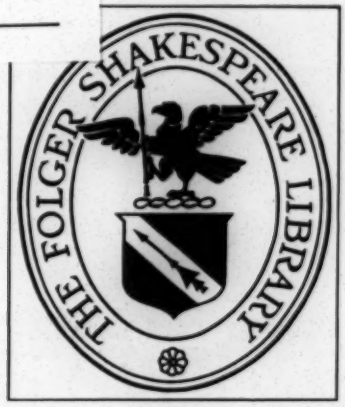
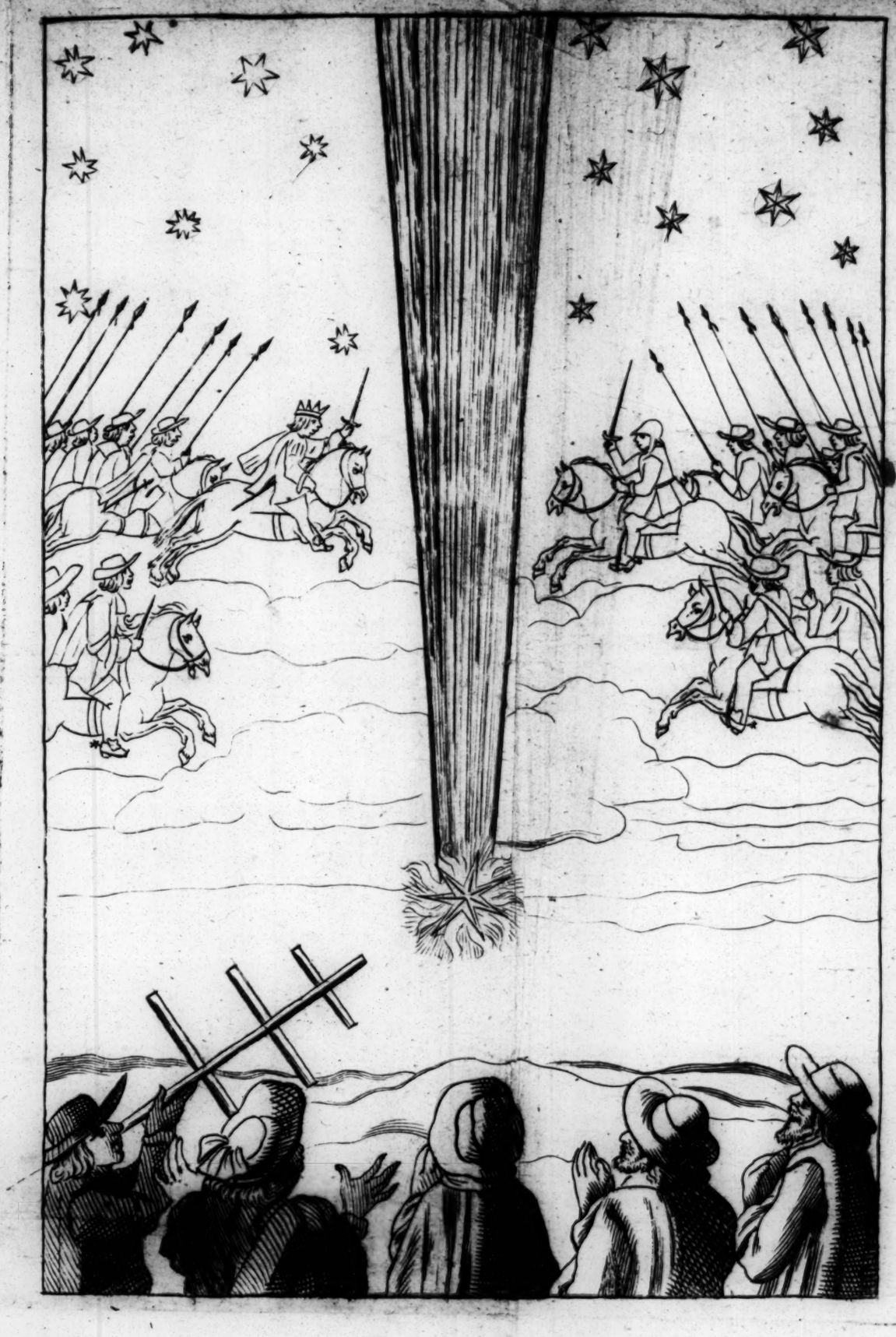
RECORD OF EXHIBITION

Date	Opening
3/29/96 - 8/31/96	tp





The Wonderful Blazing Star: with the

dreadful Apparition of two ARMIES in the Air.

The one out of the NORTH, the other out of the SOUTH, as in the Figure above is represented.

SIR,

ON the 17th of *Decemb.* 1680. between 4 and 5 a Clock in the Evening, at *Ottery*, 10 miles Eastward of *Exon*; I, and many more vewing this amazing Comet: on a sudden in a clear Sky, there appeared Two great Armies; one coming out of the North, whose Leader had a Coronet on his head; the other from the South; and, as it seemed furiously joyned Battel, and a little retreating, vigorously charged again, and thus continued almost an Hour, till at last there comes in a Reserve, and joyning with the Southern Army, forces the Northern back in Disorder, and so Vanished. Several were so terrified with this Sight, that they swooned away: This is as true as terrible, else I would not have troubled you with it.

This Account came from a Reverend Divine, who, with many more, was an Ey-witness of it. And, in all parts of England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Holland, Spain, Germany, *and* Sweeden; *nay, all over Christendom, this* Comet *has been visible: the like never since the Creation, as far as can be gathered by the best Historians ancient and modern; being plac'd in* Mercury's *Sphere, above the* Moon.

'TWill be therefore very necessary that I remind you of the two latest Exemplifications of *Comets*, the one in 1664. and the other in 1677. That in 1664. was a forerunner of most dreadful Dispensations, as the *Sweeping Pestilence* in 65. and the *Swallowing Fire* in 1666. The one falls fowl on persons, t'other on Habitations. The last in 1677. foreruns the most Damnable Plot (the Quintessence of all Plots) that ever Hell invented: Now God hath lighted up another Torch to give us a new Warning, that being forewarned we might be forearmed also, especially with those Arms of the Church, to wit, *Prayers* and *Tears* (our *Desperate Malady* hath not yet met with an *Effectual Remedy*) lest those Matchless Mischiefs which are Imminent over us may not also be Incumbent on us. There is certainly something more than ordinary God hath upon the Wheel, to lighten up such a Blaze as this in the very depth of Winter, which is a time Diametrically contrary to the very Nature of *Comets*, for Cold and Moist Weather is altogether unapt to produce those dry Vapours, whereof a *Comet* consisteth. A Winter *Comet* is therefore like Winter *Thunder*, which is commonly call'd the *Worlds Wonder*: the proper time of engendring those *Meteors* is *Autumn*, for in *Spring-time* there is supposed to be too much Moisture and too little Heat to congregate those Vapours, and in *Summer-time* there is so much heat as plainly Segregates and dispersses those Exhalations; but *Winter-time* is wholly opposite to their existency, and quite contrary to the constituting of them; Therefore this *Extraordinary* and *preternatural sign* must needs signify some *Extraordinary* and *supernatural things* even some Sweeping, Swinging or Scourging, yea some cutting or killing Dispensation, for the σχηματισμον or Apparition extraordinary had a threefold Resemblance: 1. Of a *Broom*. 2. Of a *Rod*. 3. Of a *Sword*. 1. Of a large *Broom* or *Besom*, yet dreadful to behold, by its sparkling Aspect, as if God were coming to Sweep *Babylon* and destroy its *Brats*, with his dreadful *Besom of Destruction*, as he hath promised, *Isa.* 14, 22. 23. 'Tis true, God hath his [*Scopas purgatorias*, as well as *perditorias*] his *Brushing* as well as *Crushing* Besoms. The former is for *Sion*, which God brushes only for its *Ornament*: the latter is for *Babylon*, which God Crushes also for its *Overthrow*. God grant this *Unclean Spirit* of *Babylon* may be Swept out of our Land. *Zach.* 13.2. Even by his powerful Besom.

Of their final Cause.

MOST Philosophers agree, that Comets are the Embassadors or Agents of a highly offended Deity, and the Denunciators of Misery to Mankind: They are taken for Heralds or Proclaimers of future Calamities and Miseries; It is a most certain Truth, never yet did any Comet appear, but it was the Messenger of some Eminent Calamity.

The Learned Dr. *Swan* agrees, that they are either a sign of Calamity, or else the efficient Cause of them: If a Sign of Calamity, then their end is to be Monitors to Repentance.

Most true it is, That Comets were always look't upon as the Threatning Eyes of Divine Vengeance, or the Tongue of an ireful and greatly offended Deity.

The Learned *Fromundus* concludes, That they are Signs, at the pleasure of God, to terrify and amend Mortals.

The Earth in vain did never Gaze,
When Comets *in the Skies do Blaze.*

Conclusion:

Notwithstanding the Vengeance which this Comet threatens to Mortals; The Godly, Upright sincere Souls need not in the least concern themselves; but may be joyful in the Lord; when others shall be at their Wits End for fear: for it doth, with the Prophet Isa. 3. 10. Say to the Righteous, That it shall be well with him —— Wo unto the Wicked, it shall be ill with him — 1 *Phil.* 28. In nothing terified by your Adversaries, which is to them an evident token of Perdition: but to you of Salvation, and that of God.

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